VOL. 3

CALGARY, JULY 7th, 1919

One Dollar per year

No. 14

O CANADAI

(The Land of Liberty)

O Canadal Our home, our native land True patriot love thou dost in us command We see thee rising fair, dear land The true North strong and free And stand on guard, O Canada We stand on guard for thee.

O Canadal O Canadal

O Canadal We stand on guard for thee,
O Canada! We stand on guard for thee.

O Canadal Where pines and maples grow, Great prairies spread and lordly rivers flow: Thou art the land, O Canada From East to Western Sea; The land of hope for all who loil—The land of liberty.

O Canada! Beneath thy shining skies
May stalwart sons and gentle maidens rise,
And so abide, O Canada,
From East to Western Sea,
Where e'er thy pines and prairies are
The true North strong and free.

WHAT THE WORKER DESIRES?

To-day the ordinary worker is a man of peace, his demands on life are simple, his actions direct and honest, and the future, which rests in his hands, is full of hope, provided only the present holders of power and privilege will not insist on facing him with the machine gun when he looks for and expects a change. The "dictatorship of the proletariat" in reality need be, if they will let it, not an orgy of loot and murder, but a reasonable and relationships so as to make possible, for the first time in the world's history, the reasonable satisfaction of the reasonable wants of the common man.

—The Nation, New York.

"No man is good enough to govern another man without that other man's consent."—LINCOLN.

IUSTICE

Justice is an unassailable fortress, built on the brow of a mountain which cannot be overthrown by the violence of torrents, nor demolished by the force of armies.—From "The Koran" (Bible of Mohammedanism.)

TRUE THEN, TRUE NOW

Small thieves lie in towers fastened to wooden blocks; big ones strut about in gold and silver.

—By Cato, The Censor (B.C. 234 49).



"Justice in Winnipeg!'

RING IN THE NEW

The new order makes its demand. The walls must be moved out. There must be room for the spirit of eight million men who died for a larger world. They bid us to let the old evils go and to bring in the new good, to ring out the slowly dying cause, the ancient forms of party strife, the want, the care, the sin, the faithless coldness of the times, the old shapes of foul disease, the thousand wars of old, and to ring in the nobler modes of life, the love of truth and right, the common love of good, redress to all mankind, the thousand years of peace. The dead ask this of us. They have a right to ask it and to threaten to stir beneath the Flanders poppies if we will not hear. And another reason is that the Kingdom of God should come on earth—in all parts of the world. If that Kingdom is not brought nearer now by many a long year it will be due to man's failure and to his eternal disgrace.

-ROBERT E. SPEER, in the Christian Commonwealth.

WHERE IS DEMOCRACY?

The workers of the allied world were told that they were engaged in a war for democracy; that out of the ruins of the war would arise a new and more beautiful world. They are asking now: "Where is that democracy for which we fought? When are we to enter into this new world with its greater regard for the rights of the common man?" They see no change for the better, but in many respects find conditions worse than those against which they protested before they entered the war.—New York Nation.

A MASTERLY SAYING

International peace and good will depend on as little intercourse as possible betwixt Governments and as much as possible betwixt peoples.—RICHARD COBDEN.

The Salvation of the Future will be found in Independent Politics.

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How the Farmers Are Robbed

By John Glambeck

(Fifth and Last Article)



In my previous article I called attention to the way the big p a c k in g companies are coining millions, not only by controlling the price of cattle and hogs and by controlling the price the consumers have to pay, but by utilizing every bit of the carcass

they make enormous profits. Perhaps some credit is due the big packing com-Perhaps panies for their wonderful perfection and organization of the great slaughtering and packing industry which to-day stands as one of the most perfected industries of the world. Still when we take into consideration the enormous fortunes these people have made it looks as though they have been amply paid for their efforts. As long as this industry remain as the private property of the men who now control it there is absolutely no chance for the farmer, the meat users and workers in the packing plants to get a square deal The farmer will continue to be robbed the consumer to pay the price set by the packers, while the packing house workers will continue to work for starvation wages.

To every thinking man and woman it ought to be plain that this industry must be taken over by the people and run collectively. How to get it away from the present owners is a matter for the people to decide but there is no alternative; they must either own and control it or

submit to being robbed.

But the great packers, like the rest of the profiteering class, are not satisfied to make great profits on the sale of meat and the by-profits, but they manipulate the livestock markets and rob the stock raisers out of their legitimate profit. I shall close these articles by giving an extract from a book recently published by Frederick C. Howe, commissioner of Immigration of the port of New York, on the relation between the packers and the growers of beef. This was published in Campbell's Scientific Farmer, the United States' best farm paper.

"The cattlemen of the West and South-

west assert that the meat supply is controlled by the packing monopoly, just as the wheat of the northwest is controlled by the speculators and middlemen. They too are in the power of speculators who fix the price paid by the producer and the price paid by the consumer as well. The cattlemen produce for the world market, but they do not sell to their customers. They sell to the buyers of five or six packing houses who arbitrarily fix the price of meat on the hoof. The cattlemen have to accept what is offered or ship their cattle back to the range. They too have no control over their business and no means of being assured from one year to the other that they will receive enough for their cattle to pay for the cost.

"The cattle raisers have finally organized for protection just as have the farmers. They have held conferences, employed counsel, and laid their condition before Congress. They insist that they do not fix the price of meat but they frequently receive so little that it does not pay for the raising.

The winter 1914-15 when meat prices were exceedingly high the cattlemen claim was disastrous to them. One case was presented to the Interstate Commerce

Commission covering 56 Iowa farmers who had marketed 2,025 cattle between them or an average of 36 head per farmer. Of the total 56 feeders all but three lost money, and the latter made a profit of only \$667.76 on the sale of 137 cattle. The other 53 lost on an average of \$19.32 per head on their operations, and the expense of labor and care was not included in the cost It was stated that these cases were typical of the industry.

"This exhibit was for the year 1915.

"This exhibit was for the year 1915, Yet while this was one of the disastrous years in the history of stock raising it was the most profitable one for the packers who made the largest profits in their

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"A committee of the American National Live Stock Association prepared a comprehensive report on the subject and showed that it cost to raise and feed steers for market in the panhandle of Texas, \$8.10 per hundred lbs., while the price paid for cattle by the packers during the primary market season had ranged from \$7.50 to \$8.05 per hundred pounds. They asserted that the prices paid are so manipulated that the prices are very low during the months when they have to sell their cattle, while during the months when the packers realize on their sales the prices are artificially high.

are artificially high.

"The cattle raisers ship in their cattle from the ranges to the stockyards of the various cities where the packing houses are located. Each morning the price of cattle on the hoof is fixed by the buyers for the various establishments who meet for that purpose. This the cattlemen can accept or reject. But the only other market is in a distant city and it too is

under the same ownership.

"So the cattleman has to sell at the price which is offered or take his cattle home. This in many cases he cannot do for he has borrowed money from the bank

to feed and market his stock.

"The stock raisers attribute their helplessness to the control of the cattle business
by four or five companies which dominate
the business, for there are no public
slaughter houses and there is no competition among buyers. The packers fix the
price paid the producer at one end of the
transaction and the price charged the
consumer at the other. They manipulate
and control prices at will. The packing
monopoly extends far beyond the mere
buying and selling of meat products. It
includes the ownership of the stockyards,
refrigerator cars, oil mills, and many
banks, all of which work in harmony and
under the control of the packers.

"The packers also control the hide business, tanneries as well as glue, button making, cottonseed oil, soap, artificial butter, etc. The combination control the price of fertilizer which the farmer uses as well as the refrigerator cars for the transportation not only of meat but of fruits, fresh vegetables and other perishproducts. In fact, the packers through their control of banks and railroad cars and the virtual ownership of the means of marketing possess a more or less complete monopoly of the foodstuffs of the entire nation. As all local slaughter houses have been driven out of business the local butchers must buy from the trust and hence less than a half dozen men control the meat price of all the people.

"As the packers practically control most of the banks throughout the West they possess an incredible power. When the packers are buying the banks are cager purchasers of cattle paper. The discount rate is one half to one and one-half per cent. above that on other gilt-edged commercial paper. Each morning the telegraph announces the prices Chicago is willing to

pay for each quality of stock delivered on the track. The packers pay cash and the the track. The packers pay cash and the farmer is so weak financially that he cannot resist, for the banks which accommodate the cattlemen are controlled by the modate the cattlemen are controlled and modate the cattlemen packers and see to it that the cattlemen packers desire. The cattle raiser has borrowed money from his bank to raise his stock. The banks in turn are closely allied with the packers and are owned by them, and the banks carrying the cattlemen's paper bring pressure to bear on them to sell, oftimes in the season of the year when the price has been artificially lowered by the packers. The procedure is the same as in the case of wheat. The packers fix a low price when the cattleman has to sell and they bring pressure upon him through the banks which they control to compel him to sell on the packers' terms.

"Thus the packing establishments rather than the producer control the price of meat. And they seem to establish the price at the point which will just keep the industry alive. Frequently they reduce it below the production of cost. This discourages cattle raising and creates a scarcity in subsequent years. Then the price is raised again and the producers take heart

and increase the output.

"The packers also control the cold storage plants, the grain warehouses and the refrigerator cars which are important links in the system. This enables the packers to destroy any independent competitor, for he is obliged to come to them for cars. And the refrigerator car companies are in close alliance with the railroads through interlocking directorates. The cold storage car monopoly enables the packers to extract tribute from the small shipper and makes him dependent upon their will."

Did you ever notice that at times of

Did you ever notice that at times of industrial unrest, at times when the workers were striking for shorter hours and higher wages that most farm and city papers would point to the farmer as working uncomplainingly 16 to 18 hours a day and that at such times it was put up to the farmer how he would like to hire some of these city fellows, pay them the wages demanded and give them an 8- hour day on the farm. Now this is all done for a purpose; it is one of the favorite games of the exploiting class to set the workers against the farmers, to make them believe that the farmers, to make them believe that the farmers are skinflints and their enemies, while at the same time make the farmer think that the high wages paid to the city worker and organized workers in general are the chief cause of the farmers' troubles.

Now all this is clear "bunkum." Of course it is true at the present time where the class who farm the farmers and steal the product of his labor and leave him little or nothing, that he can't afford to pay big wages, nor give shorter hours. But when the day comes (as come it will) where the farming class get wise to the

game and kicks off its back the whole class of parasites that now sucks the very life blood out of them, then it will not be necessary for either the farmer nor his hired man to work 16 hours a day. When the farmer gets the full product of his toil he can very well afford to pay his hired man big wages and work him 8 hours or less. Yes, he can afford two shifts if necessary. I for my part would much rather give the money to the hired man who does useful work than keep on feeding the gamblers and exploiters. With the farmers' products going into the hands of private interests and the control of the government in the hands of these same interests, there can be nothing ahead for the farmer but exploitation. But when the farmers and workers get control of the government steps must be taken immediately to transfer all feasible industries now privately owned into public ownership.

-JOHN GLAMBECK.

HOUSING CONDITIONS-

APPALLING!

Mr. Davison, a new Labor M.P. who defeated Miss Christabel Pankhurst in a Birmingham contest at the last General Election, "surprised the British House of Commons with his first speech on Dr. Addison's great Housing Bill by its abundant knowledge and its revelation of power. It stamped him as a man of real capacity, sure of himself, intensely in garnest, endowed with rare gifts of speech the effect of which is enforced by a good presence and a rich ringing voice.

"He was formerly a sanitary inspector and in the exercise of that office he acquired his intimate knowledge of housing conditions. What he has seen of the way in which masses of our people are condemned to live in large cities and congested industrial centres has burned into his soul. Some of the details he gave of experiences gained during his 'peregrinations as a sanitary inspector' were appalling—no other word would fill the facts."

PUBLIC OPINION.

HOW CAPITAL CAN HELP

A new industrial and social system is in the making. With good-will and justice the new system will evolve in peace and quietness. Capitalists and employers can help or hinder as they will. In order to help they must realize that capital belongs to the nation, just as much as a soldier's life, or a munitioner's labor. It must, then, be used to further the interests of the nation.

—R. D. Suthers.

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APPRECIATION OF ALBERT V. BLACK

The progerssive movement of the West has suffered much in the past year through loss by death of some of the moving spirits. Few if any will be more missed or more deeply regretted than Albert V. Black, who died of typhoid fever June 23rd. For some time Mr. Black worked in the Non Partisan office, and by his indefatigable effort did much toward the success which our movement has achieved. He was in the front line of every battle against wrong, it is our duty to pay honor to his memory.

Albert Black was a man of exceptional fortitude. Physically he was not strong; he suffered in silence from physical disability which would have utterly discouraged most men. In spite of this he performed a feat of living which few of us will be able to accomplish. Heroically and persistently he gave himself to the last fraction of energy with a view to the common good. At the time of his death he was president of the Unitarian Association in Calgary, a member of the Executive of the People's Forum, and also on the Executive of the Labor Party. These tasks with all the work entailed, together with the daily toil for a living were sufficient to swallow the energies of a man of greater physical

resources than our deceased friend possessed.

"How divine a thing it is to suffer and be strong!" Despite physical weakness Mr. Black enjoyed the divine experience of the suffering strong, for what he lacked in bodily strength was more than made up mentally and morally. He was a man of vision and optimism; he never looked for the earmarked success which pleases the crowd: he knew that we were only at the beginning of things. As a leader in Liberal religion, in democratic politics and economic justice he was content to work on the foundations, knowing well that the structure to be raised thereon is the work of many generations. So while others shrank from the unpopular he went steadily on; while others saw our country slowly drifting to upheaval and catastrophe he glimpsed through the blunderings, stepping stones of progress leading through trials to greater glory; while others saw but a thorn-crowned man of sorrows vainly struggling beneath the burden of the cross upon which he was to die, Mr. Black in his scope and penetration discerned the saviour of the world. He drew much of his joy in life from the consciousness that he was permitted to help along the great things that are to be.

The world loses in the death of a man who feels much the pains of others. Mr. Black was large-hearted and sympathetic, his nature was pitched on a minor key, making him over-sensitive to the burden of sorrow that lay upon the heart of the world; "like the river sponge" he was "forever saturated with the passing streams of other people's woes." While men of this type live

the Christ is not dead.

The highest honor which we can pay to our departed friend is to consecrate our lives to the great cause of humanity for which he gave his life. We must take up the task where death compelled him to lay it down, and work until the root of sorrow be torn from the heart of our civilization and right crowned the guardian of human liberty.

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THE COURAGE OF SMALL NATIONS

All honor to the little countries, Norway, Switzerland, Denmark and Sweden! Beset by troubles of their own, dependent in large measure upon the Allies for their own food supplies, these four brave little neutrals when asked by the victors in the war to join in re-establishing the blockade against Germany in the event of her refusing to sign the treaty, replied with an indignant, "No", and would have no part in the crime of starving millions of women and children to achieve their aims, come what may. It was as fine a bit of moral courage as the whole war has brought out. —The New York Nation

On account of Exhibition Week this issue is unavoidably late.

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There is no wealth but life. That country is the richest which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy human beings."—Ruskin.

SODOM AND Mr. T. A. Crerar GOMORRAH has at last justified the confidence of the

people of Western Canada in his firm stand taken on the Budget debate, in his resignation from the most autocratic government in the history of Canada. Now that he and others have left it looks very much like the old story of Sodom and Gomorrah.

There were many admirers of Mr. Crerar who were unable to understand his attitude when he entered the Union Government. But Mr. Crerar's integrity was never doubted. His many years of service to the Western farmers had established such a confidence in his honesty of purpose that .to impute ulterior motives to him never occurred to any one. If Mr. Crerar made a mistake in entering the Union Government, we are assured that his purpose was true, and in leaving it, by that act he says to the people of Canada that the Union Government cannot be ex-The pected to serve democracy. recent Minister of Agriculture held his portfolio for patriotic reasons, but when that danger which he feared was over he did not hesitate to leave his honored position, believing as he does that no position is honorable, unless honest service be possible in

It has long been apparent that governments as we know them are no place for a good man. The greatest task before the people of Canada to-day is to create that kind of government in which only good men and women will find a place. The place to begin this reform is of course among the people themselves, and they have begun in the West.

We sincerely trust that Mr. Crerar will be called to the leadership of the farmers' political movement in the West. The need for patriotic service in this field is as great if not greater than in any other. Mr. Crerar has the ability both morally and intellectually, and it would be a sign of higher Canadian citizenship if he

should be chosen, not only as leader of the new political movement in the West, but as premier of Canada in the not too distant future.

GET INTO THE MOVEMENT

The United Farmers of Alberta are now definitely in the political field. This

step they have been slow to take. Years of agitation on the part of the radical spirits are behind this decision. Even now there are many who think this political move to be a mistake, while others of the more advanced wing doubt whether the U.F.A., as at present constituted, can meet

with any political success.

There have been people of these opinions in all movements of history. There are always those who say it can't be done, those who fear to try, and those who leave others to do it. But things have happened and will happen because there are those who do things with vision and courage. In the face of such need for united purpose and effort there is no time to cavil over details. The heart of the U.F.A. membership is sound, and beats true to the democratic impulse, its blood is pure and healthy and its vision is patriotic in the highest sense of that term. The U.F.A. represents both politically and commercially the collective opinions of the organized farmers of Alberta. The past of the movement has been such as to inspire confidence for the future; the farmers will do credit to themselves and to Canada in their political venture.

There is no excuse for any farmer to be outside of this U.F.A. movement—not even ignorance can excuse him, for in these days of literature and organization there is no excuse for ignorance. Every farmer should get into it right away and with a good heart. To stand outside and holler is to put one's self in the position of a yelping terrier barking at the moon. Join the U.F.A., give some time and thought to the movement; make this new venture as worthy as the U.F.A. has always been of the Alberta

farmer.

A NEW It is claimed by all PROCESS OF thinkers that knowlessential of all things as a means of improving conditions of human life, and that therefore education is the first step to be taken toward sound reform. It is generally conceded that the members of the government are those employed by it to carry out its conjunctions, as well as those who own the government, are more in need of education than the rank and file of the common people. But

finding a way to educate these people has always been a difficult problem, and up to quite recently no solution could be found. The way out opened up in a very unexpected manner in fact the government stumbled across it while blindly groping in the dark. It happened in this way.

The Dominion authorities employed the strong arm of the State in a high-handed manner in the arresting some of the most outstanding characters in our country. In order to make out some sort of a case in its own defence the government sends policemen to search the homes of harmless citizens in the middle of the night. All books or pamphlets with red covers, or with any appearance of radical thought are taken away by these searchers of the night to be used as evidence against the leaders of the Winnipeg strike. The ordinary mortal does not see what evidence a workingman's library can give in the conviction of F. J. Dixon or J. S. Woodsworth, but this is not the point; the point is that the Government is going to use it as evidence.

In the small hours of the morning of our great Dominion Day, the mounted policemen raided the homes of a number of Calgary workingmen, among whom was R. H. Parkyn. They took from Mr. Parkyn's bookshelves among others, "Hell Before Death, ' by an American clergyman, "The Revolt of Democracy,.' by Alfred Russell Wallace, "Freedom of Thought, and books by Marx and Snowden on Socialism. Mr. Parkyn handed them the Bible also, with the remark that there was as much revolutionary sentiment in the teachings of Jesus as there was in the other books taken, but the Bible was left.

Now we presume that the policemen will read these books, in order to be sure that they were within the rights of their warrant in taking them; we suppose that the lawyers who prosecute and defend the arrested strike leaders, the judges and the jury will read these books in order to establish or refute their value as evidence; and we hope also that Hon. Arthur Meighen, R. L. Borden and others who for political reasons are stirring up civil strife will also read these books, and so out of the evil will come good. For if all the books taken by the authorities are read by those interested in convicting the strike leaders, more knowledge will be attained by our policemen and our government than they ever had before, and then we may reasonably hope for better days. "Knowledge is Light, Ignorance is as the Dark.

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NOT THE But these night raids REASON were not instituted in the educational inter-

ests of the government. If such a result obtains it will be incidental to the main issue. There seems to be political reasons underlying these Russian and German methods of procedure. In our opinion the Union party is out in search of an election scare, knowing very well that it will never be returned to power under calm reasoning. In the arrests made at Winnipeg, and the raids in Van-couver and Calgary, the Union party is advertising for the next election, and preparing a psychological field for the seeds of falsehood.

Bolshevism or the Union party will be the next election slogan. Bolshevism has been and will be represented as bloodshed, unspeakable cruelty, anarchy and destruction. while the Union party will still pose as the saviours of the Empire. In this way Ross Rifles, disfranchised citizens, Habeas Corpus proceedings, war profits, Orders-in-Council, Reconstruction and Democracy will all be covered up in such a manner as to hide the records of government and becloud the issues of the future, and afford the Union party an opportunity, to crawl in the dark to the envied position of power.

Such political debasement need not shock us. It has long been in practice, and will continue to be in use as long as people can be fooled in this way. The tragedy of it all is that the people still can be fooled. But the time is not far distant when sensational falsehood will fail. May we not hope that that time will have come before the next election?

* * *

NOT THE PEOPLE WANTED

We pointed out when PEACE THE the peace treaty was first announced that it was not a treaty of peace; that it was

of such a character as to become the basis of other wars. Some of our readers were hostile at our view, and wrote strong letters of disapproval. We are, however, still of the same opinion, and wish to draw the attention of our readers to the declaration of General Smuts who is considered to be one of the keenest minds who attended the peace conference. He signed the treaty, but did so under protest, and issued the following in justification of his position.

"The world needs peace above all, and nothing could be more fatal than a continuance of the state of suspense between war and peace. The six months since the armistice was signed have perhaps been as upsetting and ruinous to Europe as the previous four years of war."

Gen. Smuts regards the treaty as the close of the chapters of war and armistice, and feels that in the treaty "we have not achieved the real peace to which our peoples have been looking." He believes the real work of making peace will only begin after the treaty is signed. The treaty is simply a liquidation of the war situation.

Gen. Smuts urges that the territorial settlements and guarantees and fore-shadowed punishments and stipulated indemnities need revision, modification or expungement. Real peace people ought to amend the peace of statesmen.

Gen. Smuts asserts that two achievements of far-reaching importance are definitely recorded in the treaty, namely the destruction of Prussian militarism and the institution of the league of nations. He is confident the latter will yet prove the means of escape for Europe from the ruin created by war. The South African minister regrets that the abolition of militarism in the treaty is confined to the enemy.

THE PRICE Why don't you get OF CLOTHES a new suit clothes?

question has been in all our minds for some time. W. E. Patton, of the Patton Manufacturing Company of Sherbrook, supplies the answer while giving evidence before the cost of living committee in Ottawa.

Mr. Patton declared that his company's profits on tweeds were for 1915, 26.15 per cent.; in 1916. 35.30 per cent.; in 1917, 46.81 per cent. and in 1918 they had swollen to 72.90 per cent. In answer to a question put by Mr. Pringle as to whether it would not lower prices to the public if the profits were lowered, Mr. Patton replied, "Our mill was not built for the glory of God, or anybody else, it was built for the benefit of the shareholders," and added that there must be something wrong with the man who could not make money during the war.

Now, this spirit, and the profits resulting from it, are the cause of all labor unrest. The government says the trouble is caused by Bolshevism, but here lies the real cause.

The whole contention of labor is admitted by this tweed profiteer; his mill was built for profits; loses sight of the worker and the community, profit is the whole aim of industry. As long as this goes on there will be strikes and uprisings. Imprisoning and shooting the strikers will not affect the situation favorably; on the contrary it will intensify feeling and lead to civil war. Labor

troubles can end only when industry is operated for service. * *

THE POSTAL The postal workers of Calgary and WORKERS other cities came out on strike in sympathy with their

fellow workers, and in the interests of a trade union principle. The Canadian government immediately discharges these men, most of whom are returned soldiers, and takes on other men, who are not capable of doing the work. All examination of fitness has been waived, and the postal service is in a shocking condi-

tion of inefficiency.

We believe it is a bad policy for the government thus to refuse to its own employees the right to strike against an injustice. By taking this attitude the government places itself in such a position as to be unable to arbitrate in labor troubles in the future. How can Labor have confidence in a government of this kind to demand from other employers of labor that which it will not concede itself. Such actions as this will help to further destroy the confidence of labor in all governments and force direct action.

It is time the Canadian people took a hand in these affairs that are fundamental to harmony and happiness. We believe the postal worker should be reinstated and are in agreement with the following resolution passed in the Unitarian Church last Sunday night:-

"Whereas, we believe that the recent strike was a phase of the general revolt against injustice and a natural consequence of a reactionary government; and

"Whereas, men like J. S. Woodsworth, F. J. Dixon, William Ivens, and the others, whom we know to be men who hate injustice and love mercy, who are not enemies of the people, but willing to make any sacrifice for the common good, have been arrested and imprisoned; and

"Whereas, we believe that the actions of the authorities in Winnipeg were unpatriotic, endangering as they did the lives of the community, as well as opposed to the democracy which Canada helped to win in Flanders;

"Be it therefore resolved, that we hereby register our protest in the name of justice; that we deplore very deeply the kaiseristic methods of the Union government; that we urge that the arrested leaders in Winnipeg be released and acquitted, and that the government apologize to them for the injustice.'

"Whereas, we believe the postal workers came out on strike in the interests of labor principles and are the only paid unions of all strikers to be discriminated against;

"Whereas, we believe it to be bad policy on the part of the government to fail to recognize the right to strike on the part of labor organizations, thereby making themselves incapable of service in labor troubles; and

"Whereas, the present postal service is deplorable, we strongly urge that these men be reinstated at once."

THE LEAVITT U.F.A. BAND

By D. O. Wight (Cardston, Alta.) Here is a brief outline of the history of the Leavitt U.F.A. band which, through the generous response of the delegates to Mr. Greenfield's appeals for funds at the different conventions, was enabled to

attend the Young People's Conference at Edmonton during week of June 23rd: This band is composed of 21 boys and

9 girls. It is the outgrowth of a community spirit and a desire for better things in a rural community. It was organized about a year ago. There had been some 20 or 25 young people in Leavitt induced to attend the Leavitt Public School during the months of December, January, February and March. These young people took what they called "The Special Class" under the direction of D. O. Wight, the Principal of the school. This consisted rrincipal of the school. This consisted of applied arithmetic, composition, and English, writing, geography and history of the world war, including a daily study of the Literary Digest and other current magazines. possibilities of accomplishing things even in a rural community, for Leavitt has 270 people all told and is scattered over an area which makes the school 3½ or 4 miles from the homes of many of these young people. They did not want to young people. cease study when spring came and the Band was organized to hold them together. They had been taught to read music while in the Special Class and then when spring opened they purchased their in-struments, each one paying \$23.50 out of their own savings.

Then bigger things loomed in view. he U.F.A. decided for political action and the interest of the farmers of Leavitt and the interest of the farmers of Leavitt was enlisted with the result that the Leavitt Local No. 68 was reorganized, with myself as secretary. The band then renamed itself, "The Leavitt U.F.A. Band." Their first appearance in this capacity was to greet Mr. Wood, at Cardston, on his tour of the South in the preliminaries to the holding of the recent U.F.A. political conventions. They also went with President Wood to Magrath and played during his stay there.

Then came the call to attend the Lethmacleod, hearing of this, invited them to attend their convention also, which was accepted, and while attending these conventions, Mr. Greenfield of Westlock, who was chairman at Macleod, started the movement to send the band to Ed. monton to the Young People's Conference and also to attend the U.F.A. conventions in Edmonton during the week. An appeal was made at every convention throughout the Province for funds, with the result that the Leavitt U.F.A. Band attended the Young People's Conference, having all their expenses paid.

They appreciate their opportunities and are becoming more convinced of the possibilities of advancement in their own home country town. They are satisfied with their homes, they have satisfied when their mones, they have learned to put hours of study on difficult subjects and are really getting more out of their work and life than many of their city cousins. They are all juniors, except three-the solo cornet, the drummer and the leader. They are not all the young people of Leavitt but they are a good proprie of Leavitt but they are a good proportion of them and the offers in Leavitt would be only too pleased to join in with them, but there is a limit to the number which could be conveniently handled, so that there are several young people in Leavity and the could be conveniently handled, so that there are several young people in Leavitt anxiously waiting for an opportunity when they might get in. The Leavitt Local U.F.A. has every

band member enrolled and has a membership of 66, half of its number being juniors.

The trip to Edmonton was highly appreciated and the band was heavily loaded with calls for entertainment. They attended the U.F.A. conventions of West with calls for entertainment. They attended the U.F.A. conventions of West and East Edmonton—twice on Tuesday and once Wednesday and Thursday each day. They also entertained the G.W. Veterans at the Convalescent Hospital in Strathcona, besides playing several times each day at the University Buildings, where they were permanently settled for the week. Yet with all this they managed to get in attendance at the most important of the sessions of the Young People's Conference, held in the Art Building of the University of Alberta.

In addition to all this varied work, they managed to squeeze time to visit Swift's Packing Plant in East Edmonton, to make a tour of the Parliament Buildings, to march at the head of a big U.F.A. and Young People's parade down Jasper Ave., and for the boys in the band to form into a baseball nine and play against all-comers at the University.

We left Leavitt at 2 a.m. on the Monday morning in autos for Macleod. Six miles out one car broke down and two cars raced back for the load and by holding our train just a few minutes just made the grade. On our journey north at Calgary the N.P.L. Secretary greeted us on 8th Avenue, and learning we had two hours to spare, after visiting the top of the Hudson's Bay Building, arranged a tour of the City in the Special "Scenie" Car, free of expense. We took our instru-ments and played selections en route. The trip was highly appreciated, the "yarns and witticisms" of Conductor Clarke added to the enjoyment. The week's outing and entertainment

certainly gave the members of the Band "the time of their lives." Though tired at times yet it was full of change and excitement, and our very best thanks are not only due to Mr. Greenfield for his efforts, but to everyone who contributed to the making it possible for us to have such a great week.

-D. O. WICHT.

* * * THE FARMERS' PLATFORM An Alternative to Revolution

The political effects of the strike cannot fail to be far-reaching. It means the eventual overthrow of the Union Government, for labor will not forgive its attempts at strike breaking. The farmers and French Canadians are already frankly hostile to it for other reasons, and no Canadian government can have a long existence merely on the support of the plutocracy and urban bourgeoisie. Henceforth the urban vote will be divided into two camps, labor and anti-labor, and the possibility of the revival of Liberalism as a moderating force is considerably lessened.

. But the crisis is leading more and more people to look for a solution to the strong agrarian movement which has been gathering strength since last December. It is set forth in the Farmers' Platform, or, as they prefer to call it, "The New National Policy"—a more radical programme than any hitherto offered to the Canadian people. The farmers are radical reformers with the brake of the conservatism of property owners. They ought to be able, with the help of labor to end the unfortunate domination of our plutocratic interests, who were never more arrogant and predaceous than at present, and to offer Canada a reasonable alternative to a revolution.

-J. A. STEVENSON, of Ottawa, in The Nation, New York.

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BRANDON

U.F.A. Political Conventions

THE STRATHCONA RIDING

By W. J. Jackman, Bremner, Alberta Secty. Rural Municipalities Assoc.

Optimism and a gay good humour characterised the gathering of the U.F.A. delegates of the Strathcona Federal Constituency at Wetaskiwin, June 19th and 20th.

Fourteen years ago, in the little East Edmonton school-house, forty miles away to the north, what has become known as the "Farmers' Movement" had its inception when the old Alberta Farmers' Association, one of the parents of the U.F.A. was formed. And now, after fourteen years of steady growth and development faced at first by ridicule and sarcasm, then by misrepresentation, and finally by the desperate resistance born of fear—now another step forward was about to be taken, and the political emancipation of the farmer was about to be attempted. Most of the pioneers of the Early days of the organization were present, and no wonder they felt cheerful as they looked round the crowded Angus Theatre and reflected that their efforts had made the gathering possible.

gathering possible.

D. W. Warner, the first president of the association, his aggressive red beard of the old days now a venerable white, was selected as Chairman, and filled the office with dignity and impartiality. Naming the various committees and organizing for the work of the Convention occupied the

brief morning session.

President H. W. Wood was the principal speaker at the afternoon session. Formerly an enthusiast for co-operation, almost a crank on the subject, in fact, and known to his imtimates as "Co-operation Wood," the President appears to have considerably modified his views. He has set his face dead against co-operative political effort, and advocates a straight class organization of the farmers. The only controversy of any note raged round this point, Mr. Wood's view was strongly supported and almost as strenously opposed. Many delegates with the Non-Partisan viewpoint felt that collaboration with the Labor Party, the Veterans and other bodies, was not only the logical course for those holding the professed principles of the U.F.A. to follow, but was really the only method of achieving success. The President argued his point with immense ability, however, and his view prevailed.

The Convention of the Liberal Association of the riding had been held the previous week, and a resolution had been passed proposing a joint conference between the Liberals, the G.W.V.A., the U.F.A. and the Labor men, with a view to united political action. This was officially placed before the convention in a letter from Mr. Montgomery, the sitting member in the Provincial house, and delegates from the Liberal Association were present to support it. A long debate ensued. Many of the delegates suggested summarily rejecting the offer or consigning it to the waste paper basket; but it was finally agreed to lay it on the table; and at a later session it was taken from the table and again discussed, ultimately being left in the hands of the newly elected executive for disposal.

E. Hinckley, of Ponoka, appeared in the dual role of a delegate from the Liberal party and a delegate to the U.F.A. convention, and was asked to explain how he expected to ride two horses at the same

time.

Mrs. Root, District Director of the U.F.W.A., was called upon for an address. She strongly urged the nomination of a candidate at this convention, and was supported by W. J. Jackman; but on a vote

this was decided against, many of the delegates feeling that their instructions from their local unions did not justify them in going to that length

Mrs. Parlby, the President of the women's organization gave a thoughtful address, placing the viewpoint of the gentle

sex forcibly before the meeting.

Wm. Irvine, the Ben Tillett of Alberta, with an eloquence born of a great sympathy with the worker, pleaded for a wider organization which would admit the producers of the towns and cities, whose interests were, he thought, identical with those of the farmer. He sketched the aistory of the Non Partisan League, and pointed with pride to the great results it had achieved during its short life. He thought the new U.F.A. political organization would find it hardly possible to succeed if the U.F.A. decided upon a purely class organization confined to farmers. The League had learnt by experience and he thought the time would come when the basis of the new movement would have to be widened.

Herbert Greenfield, the father of the municipal hospital movement, for years at the head of the Association of Municipal Districts, and now on the Executive of the U.F.A., came forward with an appeal for funds to send to the Young People's Conference at the University of Alberta, the members of the Leavitt U.F.A. band, thirty in number, formed in the south of the Province by the U.F.A. Juniors. He was out to raise a thousand dollars for this purpose, and a collection being taken up sent him away happy with nearly one-

tenth of this amount. W. R. Ball, the veteran social reformer, was on the programme for a twenty miutes address. For about half this time he amused the audience with an account of a U.F.A. Picnic at Clover Bar some years ago, when the Hon. Duncan Marshall, as the guest of the day, delivered a speech, and he (Mr. Ball) asking permission to speak also, was refused by the committee in charge. After relating what he would have said if given the opportunity, and forecasting the dire fate of the Minister of Agriculture if they ever met on a platform Mr. Ball passed on the lighter subjects of Public Ownership and the High Cost of Living. He is never so happy or so entertaining as when juggling with big figures, and he handles millions with the easy grace of a Flavelle. Thus the quarter of a million surplus of the Intercolonial Railway by the addition of one little cipher became two and a half millions, a far more imposing sum and much more effective in

proving the speaker's point.

Passing on to the High Cost of Living,
Brother Ball flayed the Shoe Manufacturers and then went exhaustively into the
cost of milling oats, proving to his complete satisfaction that the farmer gets too
little for his oats and pays too much for

his porridge.

On the second day, Mayor Clarke, of Edmonton, who was on the programme for an address, handed out a surprise when he announced that he was not present in his Mayoral capacity but as a delegate from the Dominion Labor Party. He asked for co-operation with that body, and proposed that as the farmers could not hope to successfully contest the three Edmonton Federal constituencies, they and the Great War Veterans in conjunction with the Labor party, should effect a little combination, and place in the field a farmer in one of the three constituencies, a veteran in another, and a labor man in the third. He professed to be able to definitely promise the support of the labor men if such an arrangement could be effected.

Rev. Mr. Ritchie, of the Social Depart-

ment of the Methodist Church, who accompanied Mayor Clarke, spoke of the strike and its causes and effects; of the great world unrest; of production for use and not for profit. He struck a somewhat unsympathetic note when he told the farmers they would have to pay their hired men more than they produced.

Mr. Holmes, a returned soldier, also of the mayoral delegation, asked permission to speak and was given five minutes. He spoke of the grievances of the returned men and gained some sympathy when he related the inadequacy and inequalities of the pensions, but lost it again when he declared that seven and a half dollars a month was not enough to buy tobacco.

The remainder of the day was occupied principally with the discussion of a constitution, drawn up by a committee appointed for that purpose. After considering the drafts clause by clause, it was finally adopted with but few alterations. It is much along the lines of those adopted in other ridings and already published in

the Non Partisan.

The election of the officers followed. Rice Sheppard, with a record of fourteen years almost continuously in office, came withing an ace of being President; but he is on the U.F.A. Executive, and there exists a feeling against interlocking directorates, which probably accounted for Wm. Keough, of Leduc, securing the majority. F. H. Herbert, Geo. Ball, D. W. Warner, R. P. Ottewell, G. F. Root and W. J. Jackman, all were nominated, but withdrew, leaving only Messrs. Sheppard and Keough to be ballotted on. Mr. Keough whilst not hitherto very prominent in public affairs, is an earnest worker, and with a strong board to back him up should develop into a good leader.

a strong board to back and appeared by velop into a good leader.

Mrs. G. F. Root was by acclamation selected as First Vice-President, and F. H. Herbert secured the second position The District Directors are George Ball, of Strathcona; G. Holt, of Leduc; E. E. Sparkes, of Wetaskiwin; W. M. Hoar, of Ponoka; and John Galloway, of Fort Saskatchewan. The Secretary is to be

appointed by the Board.

An enthusiastic and highly successful gathering was brought to a somewhat inglorious termination by the introduction of a discussion on the marketing of milk and cream. Following a banquet of political fare, the audicfice found the diet rather thin, and gradually deserted the hot theatre for the fresh air outside, until a mere handful remained to join in singing the National Arthem.

W. J. JACKMAN.

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THE BATTLE RIVER RIDING

The · U.F.A. convention for the Battle River riding was held in Wainwright on June 17th and 18th H. E. Spencer H. E. Spencer, of Edgerton was chairman.

A constitution similar in practically every detail to those of the other ridings

was adopted.

The following officers were elected: The following officers were elected:
President, A. Muir, Eye Hill, First vicepresident, Mrs. S. Irwin, Irwinville;
Second vice-president, W. Farquharson,
Eye Hill. Directors: St. Paul, E. A.
Bullis, Elk Point; Ribstone, C. E. F. Wright, Hughenden; Alexandra, A. Carson, Oxville; Wainwright, J. G. Clark, Irma; Vermilion, Norman Tucker; Coronation, Thos. Partridge, Monitor.
H. E. Spencer received the nomination

as candidate at the next Federal Election, the convention being the only one of the series held to select a standard bearer.

The following resolutions were passed: Demanding that the Minister of Agriculture immediately remove the cattle from the southern part of the province, brought in for feed, as they had introduced diseases hitherto unknown in the north.

Asking organized labor and the returned veterans to co-operate in framing a platform which would be agreeable to three organizations.

That the State give aid to the extent of \$30 to each mother at childbirth.

That this convention adopt as its aim the State issue of money and credits, and regulating the value thereof, and also controlling the circulation medium in the interests of all the people.

That a more stringent inspection be instituted as regards the treatment of adopted children by farmers.

Endorsing the action of Mr. Crerar in his resignation as a protest against the refusal of the government to lower the tariff.

Favoring the abolition of the Senate.

WEST EDMONTON

Mayor Clarke, of Edmonton gave an address of welcome to the delegates to the West Edmonton convention, expressing his approval of the aims of the farmers' political movement. Mr. H. Green-field was the chairman.

Mr. Holmes, vice-president of the Dominion Labor Party and chairman of the returned soldiers who had been on strike, said that it was the desire of soldiers and labor that they combine with the farmers in the three constituencies including parts of the city of Edmonton. The following resolutions were carried: Favoring a change in the boundaries of the West Edmonton constituency to eliminate that portion of Edmonton city contained therein.

Favoring the cash bonus scheme for

returned soldiers.

That the Farmers' Platform be studied in detail with a view to adopting it at the

next convention.

That no condidate be nominated at the present time, but that the Executive be instructed to study carefully the whole political situation with a view to possible co-operation with other organizations having similar democratic aims, and to report at the next convention.

That the central office be instructed

to call a provincial convention.

The officers representing the district north of the Athabasca River were: S. K. Read, High Prairie; J. E. Skinner,

"Drops from the Ocean!"



"Trying to Save the Union Government."

Bluesky; John Harris, Kleskum Hill; J. Hoffman, Friedenstal; Mrs. Poole, J. Hoffman, Friedenstal; Mrs. Poole, Beaver Lodge, and Mrs. Newton, Grande Prairie. For the district south of the Athabasca River: D. Treedale, Spruce Grove; Chas. Stevens, Whitecourt; N. Rice St. Albert: H. Coractal Van Grove; Cnas. Stevens, whitecourt, N. Rice, St. Albert; H. Greenfield, West-lock; Alfred Parton, Clive; Mr. Ball, Onoway; B. McKinnon, Stony Plain.

EAST EDMONTON

The delegates to the U.F.A. convention for East Edmonton met on June 26-27. Mr. A. Rahn, of Bon Accord, was the chairman.

A resolution was passed demanding the alteration of the boundaries of the constituency to separate urban and rural

Another resolution favored political action being taken in provincial as well

as federal constituencies. A resolution was carried urging that every effort be made to acquaint members of organized labor unions with the political aims and purposes of the farmers, to the end that organized labor and farmers may see the comon wrongs under which both

The officers elected were as follows: President, Chas. Brunell, North Edmonton; first vice-president, A. Corbet, Horse Hills, second vice-president, Mrs. Mabel Dean, Horse Hills. Directors: R. C. New, Clodford, R. D. Grisdale, Athabasca; Harry Bell, Namao; N. J. Shopland, Rochester, J. Carlton; Bon Accord; J. J. O'Brien, Egremont.

LET DISCUSSION BE FREE

It is not repression the rulers of states should employ to-day. Instead, they should open wide the channels of dis-Instead, they cussion and orderly action, through which the currents of normal thought and mass impulse may flow more freely. Granted such liberty, we may safely trust human nature and look forward with distinct confidence to an era of social harmony and individual well-being. It is a time for hope and thought.

—The Nation, New York.

Any person under the age of thirty, who, having any knowledge of the existing social order, is not a revolutionist, is an

OUR LETTER BOX

OPPOSES G. G. G. METHOD

Queenstown, Alta., June 28, 1919

EDITOR, NON PARTISAN:-

From Mr. Boissevain's letter in the last Non Partisan I learn that he has been approached exactly the same way as myself and that he absolutely refused, as I did. to have anything to do with the Guide scheme for financing the farmers' independent political movement in Alberta.

I have been a subscriber to the Guide since 1910, and I do not deny that the Guide has done much good work encouraging the farmers to organize, and in showing up many of the wrongs perpetrated on the farmer by the big interests, etc., and I have no intention to stop my subscription, neither would I advise other farmers to do But when it comes to use the Guide as an official organ for the farmers political movement in Alberta, and to obtain the money necessary to run this independent political campaign through this scheme, it is a horse of another color, and right here is where I draw the line. Up to about a year ago it is claimed that the Guide had a big yearly deficit and that this deficit was met by the United Grain Growers' assomet by the United Grain Growers asso-ciation. Now it is easy to uniderstand why the U.G.G. has been willing to pay the deficit. The brainy men in the U.G.G. who recognize that in order to keep this great corporation to the front and be able to compete with other similar interests it is not only necessary to get more and more farmers in as shareholders, but it is also necessary that its shareholders and other farmers should buy their supplies from the tarmers should buy their supplies from the U.G.G. Hence the control of such a paper as the Guide is not only desirable but an absolute necessity. With this I find no fault. I am a shareholder myself and the little money I have invested brings very good returns. But while the U.G.G. is a farmers' company and should have the support of farmers as long as the same class of soods as other firms hendle nave the support of larmers as long as the same class of goods as other firms handle can be bought for no higher price than sold by other firms, I claim that the many troubles now confronting the farmer cannot be solved along that line. The few dollars the average farmer can raise for shares amounts to only a drop in the bucket. Now then, if we are going to try to get control of the government, if this new U.F.A. party is going to amount to anything, if we succeed in electing the right kind of men to make laws for us to change present economic conditions, here is what might happen:

Supposing we should succeed in getting through legislation that will interfere with the profits of the so-called big interests, it might incidentally also interfere wi profits or the workings of the U.G.G. corporation. Fearing this, and having control of the Guide, our would-be official Alberta political organ, it would naturally follow that the Executive of the U.G.G. would see to it that the Guide became harmless along this line and hence all our talk about democracy and independence up here in Alberta would be a farce, as our official organ would be operated with strings from Winnipeg. Now I don't claim that this thing will happen but there is a possibility that it might, and now is the time to evoid mistakes. the time to avoid mistakes. Farmers' political movements have come and disappeared simply because a snag was struck somewhere. We must avoid that. If the Alberta farmers want the real thing in an independent political movenemt they must be prepared to pay for it themselves, to put up the money in a straight way and

not depend on some other interests to

At the Bow River convention I made a strong appeal to the delegates to have the Alberta Non Partisan adopted as the official paper in the farmer's independent movement here. I argued that the Non Partisan was advocating farmers independ-ent political action for the past two years at the very time when the Guide was using its very best efforts to stampede the farmers into the Union Government, which has proved to be the worst bunch of rulers that ever ruled in Ottawa. They have and are still trying to govern the country by orders-in-council, and are to-day trying to keep back the tide of progress. Its a government who pay insufficient wages for a decent living to its own workers and who tells its postal and other servants that if they dare kick against the slavish conditions under which they live they shall forever be excluded from the government service, and can starve for all their former masters I took the position that a paper like the Guide, which up to recently censured every letter written by its farmer sub-scribers on the subject of independent political action and which only jumped into the fray after the rank and file of farmers could no longer be held in check in the old parties, was not a desirable organ for us to adopt as our official organ in the Alberta farmers political movement.

When the convention failed to adopt the Non Partisan as its official organ I felt rather disappointed but after reaching home and thinking over the matter I have come to the conclusion that after all this was the best thing that could have happened. The Alberta Non Partisan is now ab solutely owned and controlled by progressive farmer shareholders. The paper will support and give its very best efforts to the new farmers Independent political movement as long as it keeps along straight lines. But by being absolutely independent it will always be in a position to criticise any clique or combination that may arise inside the new movement. Not being under official control of the new party machine it can be made a powerful weapon in the movement and do much to prevent things getting sidetracked.

—John Glambeck.

FAIR PLAY TO ALL

Stettler, Alta., June 23rd, 1919

EDITOR, NON PARTISAN:-

I have read with great pleasure Mr. Cameron's report of the U.F.A. political convention held at Red Deer. As a strong member of the U.F.A. and a man who never supported the Liberal party, I must, however, take exception to the remark, "The sponsors showed a dogged spirit." I regret that so much undue credit has been given the Liberal party. And I as a U.F.A. delegate took great pleasure in taking the stand I did in trying to bring the convention to a clear understanding of the principle involved and who wished only to establish a spirit of diplomacy and fair play in this our initial step into politics. There was a principle involved in meeting this committee that if ignored would have put us in a very ad light as a party representing dem.

As soon as I heard this request was to be made I felt that hasty and undue action would take place. Therefore, I requested that the question be tabled or set aside until the report of Constitution committee was brought in, trusting some clause in their report would cover this request in a serious and diplomatic manner. But an amendment was rashly slung at the convention and carried unamiously (and with great cheers) to ignore this committee,

thus going on record and establishing a principle of action, I felt, every member would be afterwards ashamed of as soon as sane judgment took place of hasty and rash conclusions.

When the amendment carried I buttonholed every member possible and explained the issue at stake. I found a number of supporters and received assurance of an supporters and received assurance of an opportunity would be given to bring the subject up again. When this time came I requested that we reconsider our action. But again an amendment was rushed to a vote and carried 85 to 35 (my count). I again began the campaign for a principle not as a Liberal, as most of the delegates surmised, but a strong U.F.A. member who has this movement at heart. I found members of the Constitution committee who were not present when this request was made that thought as I did. With the support of these men and many other loval members the opinion of the convention was turned and the resolution to ignore the Liberal committee was rescinded. A principle was thus established with a little diplomatic tact and common sense. My contention was for the principle upon which President Wood's platform of democracy must be founded, and which if rightly applied will lead the farmers to a political victory.

-E. E. Ullman, (Stewartwin Local).

"UNITED TOWNS OF ALBERTA"

Vulcan, Alta., June 26, 1919.

Editor, Non-Partisan:-

I was greatly interested in your editorial. "United Towns of Alberta," in your last issue. The time is ripe for the organization

The time is ripe for the organization of a really democratic political party to stand for the interests of all the people. But the first requirement of such an organization should be that no person is debarred from the fullest rights of membership because of his occupation, religion, race or "previous condition of servitude."

If such an organization as outlined is started I would be glad to assist to the best of my small powers.

E. J. CHARTERS.

A HELPER IN "THE FIGHT!"

Watrous, Sask., June 5th, 1919. Editor, Non-Partisan:—

Allow me to congratulate you on your paper—it is a veritable arsenal of explosive facts in the fight against Private Monopoly.

Mr. Glambeck's articles on "How the Farmer is Robbed" should be issued in pamphlet form. Would you mail me extra copies of those issues in which his first two articles appear?

Hope soon to send along a "dose" of subs.

* * * W. D. Summers.

PAPER IS O.K.

Federal, Alta., June 11th, 1919.

Editor, Non-Partisan:—Please fine enclosed one dollar for subscription to The Alberta Non-Partisan for another year. Your little paper is O.K. and one of the most interesting I have ever read.
—Fred Steiner.

DOING GOOD WORK

Dauphin, Man., June 5th, 1919.

Yours for better society,

—ALBERT PLAYFORD.

"DEMOCRATIC ELECTORAL REFORM"

71051/2 Street N.W., Calgary, Alta... June 27th, 1919. Editor, Non-Partisan :-

We are continually being told that what Canada needs most to-day is constructive and not destructive criticism.

It is apparent to all that the cause or causes for the present troublous times should be removed if possible. One of the causes existing to-day is the fact that the majority of the people in this country are not represented by the Government they desire. Great numbers of people are not represented in the Council of the nation at all and under our present system of Elections it is doubtful whether the Government represents either the majority

or minority.

Labor, Socialists, Farmers (until recently) and most all other parties, except Liberal and Conservative, are completely on the outside as far as representation is concerned. It is with the object of rectifying the many grievous errors that exist that I wish to place before you what I consider would be a great improvement on the present method of electing our members, and would, I am sure, give representation to all parties who should have it. I attach my idea of a Democratic method of Election—Ballot No. 1, to be used first for principle, and Ballot No. 2, to be used for the whole of Canada for Federal Elections and for the Province for Provincial Elections on Liberal and Conservative, are completely

the Province for Provincial Elections on a specified date. After the first Ballots are all counted each party is given the number of members to which they are entitled, according to the number of ballots east in their favor. The number of members being arrived at as follows:-Total number of members of House of Commons and the total number of ballots cast being known, the latter is divided by the former and this will give the result, —thus ballots cast 2,000,000; Members 300 gives one member to 6666 ballots. The number of ballots cast for each party is then divided by 6666 giving them the number of representatives they are entitled

to.

The first ballot result being known, the date is then set for the second ballot and the parties nominate their prospective members. The date for the second ballot is artitled to cast his arriving the voter is entitled to cast his ballot for the members of the party he desires to represent the principles he voted for in the 1st ballot, and the proportional representation method of counting could be used.

Under this system of voting I really believe we shall be taking a great step forward in evolving the people to a higher conception of the use of the ballot and the pranciples which are worth standing

NEW BOOKS

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"Politics and the C.A.M.C." By Col. Bruce

Wilson's Bookstore

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Now, Mr. Editor, I leave the subject for the opinions of your readers. I know that they will be able to criticise it well and in the same kindly spirit as I put it to them. I trust that you will give us space to enlarge on any questions the idea may bring forth, if only for the fact that the subject is too big to cover in one letter.

-JESSE WOOD.

1st Ballot

Place a distinguishing mark against the party for whom you desire to represent

Conservative Farmers Prohibition

If the party you desire to vote for is not printed above then write in the party name in one of the blank spaces and place your distinguishing mark against same.

Address 2nd Trial Ballot

The Labor Party is entitled according to the number of Ballots cast in their favor to 25 Representatives in the Dominion House of Commons.

Place your numbers for the people whom you wish to represent the Labor Party against the name of the person starting with No. 1, and so on.

You may use as many numbers as there

are names on the Ballot.

(As many names as required on this ballot not in alphabetical order.)
Proportional Representation system of counting used for counting.

A LABOR LEADER'S ACTIVITIES

The Commission of the Berne International Labor Congress have appointed Arthur Henderson as a member of a deputation to visit Germany after Peace is signed to examine and report upon the conditions in that country His colleagues will be Messrs. Wibant (Holland), Mistral, (France), and Huysmans (Belgium).

Towards the end of the summer Mr.

Henderson has promised to go to America to explain to the leaders of Labor there the constitution, methods of organization, and objects of the British Labor Party. It is only recently that Labor in America has turned its attention to political has turned its attention to pointed activities; politically its members have identified themselves with one or other of the older party organizations. Now a Labor Party has been formed in Greater New York, and the aim is to extend the movement throughout the Republic. -The Christian Commonwealth, London,

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LIFE AND WORK

THE ARRESTED STRIKE LEADERS AND CANADIAN DEMOCRACY

In looking back over the troublous times of the past, times when great issues were at stake, and when new thoughts and new systems were being born, we find the leaders either on the rack, excommunicated, burned at the stake or in prison. We are to-day in the unsettled stage between two civilizations. The men who have recently been arrested in Winnipeg are and have been the heralds of the new day; the pioneers in a new world. They like the leaders of all history are called upon to pay the price, make the sacrifice. All honour to them! They are the men of the hour, and with Tagore we would say to them: 'If none respond to your call, follow the path all alone, all alone. If again in the stormy night you do not find a single soul to hold the light for you, and they all close the doors against you, be not faint-hearted, forlorn patriot, but take a rib out of your side, and light it with the ire of lightning, and then follow the gleam, follow the gleam."

Is it not a remarkable thing that governments cannot learn anything? I'here is no lesson of history more obvious than that the strong handed nethods of a government against my truth has never been successful, leither has it ever settled a problem. The words of one of Great Britan's reatest statesmen still ring in our lars—"Force is no remedy." This ruth is just as well applied to Winnipeg or Canada as it was to reland. The Union government has ent its policemen with clubs, its oldiers with machine guns. Men lave been killed and wounded, others urrested and jailed, but nothing has been done about the cause of the rouble; no honest intelligent effort was made to find a remedy.

Our Government has evidently aken its cue from old Russia. All hat we need to complete the show s a Siberia and perhaps we could find ome bleak spot on the Labrador oast which would make a last esting place for our men and women of brains. But what of the afternath? It took hundreds of years of riolent suppression and intolerance to levelop the great revolt known as he Bolsheviki movement. The varous czars with their ruthless Cossacks lindly developed the very thing hey feared the most. The Canadian overnment is following Russia. It s substituting force for remedy, and nachine guns for brains. If this

course is followed we cannot avoid the harvest which Russia reaped.

That action and reaction are equal and opposite is said to be a law in physics. It would seem that this is a law in Sociology also. We will find that revolt is equal to reacting the recent strikes are equal and opposite to the reactionary government; Bolsheviki is equal and opposite to Czarism. If Canada is to be saved from the ruin which officialdom fears, we must put a new government on the job. A blind fossilized plutocratic government will inevitably be matched by a radical If then evolutionary uprising. strikes, the O.B.U., etc., are dangerous things, the government has assuredly created them.

If there is ever a case when the restraining of the liberty of the individual is justified, that would be when the individual has become a menace to human rights. The Union Government will be justified in arresting F. J. Dixon, J. S. Woodsworth, and Wm. Ivens, providing that these men are enemies of the people. But if it should be demonstrated as we know it will, that these men are the enemies of injustice, oppression and intolerance, therefore the enemies of the Union Government and friends of the people, what then?

"By their fruits ye shall know them," said one of the great men of the world. What do we know of these men? What are their records? Are they enemies of the people?

J. S. Woodsworth is a Canadian born, son of a respected Methodist minister, and known throughout the Dominion as a genuine character. Mr. Woodsworth has long years of acceptable service to humanity behind him. He has been highly educated. has been a Methodist minister for many years, resigning that position of his own choice recently. Mr. Woodsworth is the champion of good Canadian citizenship, having written books on the subject of sane immigration and how to Canadianize the foreigners or "The Stranger With-in Our Gates." His five years. work in All People's Mission, his sociological lectures in Universities, his work in connection with the Bureau of Social Research, his books and his public lecturing have not only made him known from the Atlantic to the Pacific as a student, but as a refined scholarly Christian gentleman, and as a servant of the people.

Rev. William Ivens has a similar record of trust and service to his credit. He was born in England and educated in Manitoba University. He has occupied the pulpit as a fully accredited Methodist minister

until about a year ago when he resigned with the intention of founding a Labor Church. He succeeded in doing this, and has been preaching the social gospel of Jesus from the platform and through the columns of the Western Labor News, which paper he has been editing ever since it was issued. Here again we find a strong man, strong in mind, of great courage and splendid character, arrested because he is a true follower of the Christ. Ruskin said truly "that we still crucify the Christs but we have forgotten to crucify our thieves with them."

F. J. Dixon, M.L.A., of Centre Winnipeg, is another national figure who because of his whole-souled efforts on the part of the common people has been arrested. Mr. Dixon has fought injustice for many years, and is known as an honest noble soul. He has stood and does stand for adequate social readjustment by constitutional methods. He is the John the Baptist of democratic government and Single Tax in Canada, and elected to Parliament by a tremendous majority of his fellow citizens. Why is he in prison?

With whom shall we compare these men? Shall we compare them with the Ross Rifle men, the war profiteers, or the manufacturers who recently and blatantly announced that they were not in business for God's sake? Who are the real enemies of the people? Will Canada be better off with its Dixons and Woodsworths in prison, or would it be better with them free? Would it be an improvement if the Ross Rifle profiteers, the Allisons and the Flavelles were in jail? We go further and say that there are few if any men in the Canadian Cabinet worthy to brush the dust from the boots of these Winnipeg champions of democracy who were arrested in connection with the recent strike.

These men are the salt of the earth; they have seasoned liberty and justice with their heroism and sacrifice; they stand to-day with the few in all history who while suffering in their own day have been proclaimed great

by subsequent generations.

But what shall we say of Canadian democracy when men like Dixon, Ivens and Woodsworth are deprived of their liberty, and the homes of honest citizens are being raided in the night by order of the guardians of the State? What a shock it must have been to the returned soldiers who fought for democracy in Flanders to come back to their home town to be shot at and arrested by a Citizens Committee? No greater denunciation of our mock democracy has ever been made than when hundreds of

returned men pass a resolution demanding to be deported to England where democracy is respected.

Is there no better place in Canada than a prison for our thinkers and prophets? At the moment there is not, but freedom is not dead while men are willing to suffer for her. From all of us freedom now makes demands. Canada is drifting toward the shoals, while the helmsman is blindfolded at his post. Canada must be awakened.

"Is true Freedom but to break Fetters for our own dear sake, And, with leathern heart, forget That we owe mankind a debt? No! True freedom is to share All the chains our brothers wear, And, with heart and hand, to be Earnest to make others free.

They are slaves who fear to speak For the fallen and the weak; They are slaves who will not choose Hatred, scoffing and abuse, Rather than in silence shrink From the truth they needs must think; They are slaves who dare not be In the right with two or three!"

> -JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL. * * *

THE CRY FOR JUSTICE

One has but to read the names of the One has but to read the hames of the men and women whose words burn in the pages of history. By far more than average intelligence they won their place in the world's eye and the world's brain long after their dust had vanished. They were not tyrants and wastrels, hypocrites and liars, brewers and gamblers, market riggers and stock-brokers. They were givers and servers, and seers and human-They were unselfish. They conceived of life, not in terms of profit, but of service. Life tore at them with its heartbreak. They could not escape the hurt of it, and clear-eyed and unafraid, they not only reported human ills, they proposed the remedy.

It is so simple a remedy, merely service Not one ignoble thought or act is demanded of any one of all the men and women in the world to make fair the world. The call is for nobility of thinking, nobility of doing. The call is for service, and, such is the wholesomeness of it, he who serves all, best serves himself.

-JACK LONDON.

Surely oppression maketh a wise man -From Ecclesiastes. mad

DID THE U.F.A. ACT CONTRARY TO ITS CONSTITUTION?

Lethbridge, June 20th, 1919

Editor, ALBERTA NON-PARTISAN: The statement has frequently occurred, editorially and otherwise, in The Non-Partisan that the U.F.A. in adopting its political resolution acted contrary to its constitution. Will the editor or other persons making this statement kindly quote the Section and clause of the constitution to which they refer.

True clause 3 of Section 20 forbids any Official from using his Title in Partisan political campaigns unless authorized by the Central Board. This applies only to officials, but even the Central Board can give the authority without going to the Convention. While clause 1 of Section 3 reads as follows:

"Section 3-Objects

"The objects of the Association shall be "1. The fostering and encouragement of co-operative effort to the end:-

That the moral, intellectual and financial status of the farmer may be

improved thereby;

"(b) That the Rural home may receive more of the necessities, comforts and conveniences of modern times, and Rural life be enriched and improved thereby; "(c) That the business of agriculture

may receive the proper recognition that its importance justifies in Provincial and National affairs;

That the Dominion may perform to the best advantage the functions in the Empire which in the economy of nature it is best fitted to perform."

And clause 2 refers more particularly to the question of markets, while clause 3 reads as follows:

To watch, influence and promote legislation relative to the objects specified in the preceding sub-sections (1) and (2) and to any other matter affecting the farmers' business, and to take any legiti-

mate action necessary for this purpose."

It is thus seen that it is of the very essence of the duty of the membership of the U.F.A. to participate in politics for the purpose of attaining the objects of the organization.

Had there been constitutional objections to the resolution, those of us who did not concur in the wisdom of it would have undoubtedly raised the issue, but the question was not a constitutional one, but one of policy only. It was not whether we should take political action, we have always done that, but the way of taking the action was the question at issue, and while we were not in accord with the majority on this question, we refute any statement that the organization acted unconstitutionally and we refer the reader to Section 1 of clause 3 of the Objects above referred to of which we are some-what proud of being the author, and we ask him if the Objects therein to be

attained is not broad enough and high enough and noble enough to command the utmost loyalty and devotion on the part of the membership towards their attainment whether politically or otherwise, and no matter whether we are in favor of the resolution or not we must remember that it is "in the co-operative effort" of our body that our strength lies, and further we should refute any statement that would tend to make the public think that we were disloyal to our constitution or of taking action in any way contrary to it.

I am quite sure that your paper, if you find that I am right, will be glad to make any corrections of any inadvertant statements that may have been misleading

in this regard.

-S. S. DUNHAM.

Mr. S. S. Dunham is quite correct in assuming that this paper does not wish to make any statement that is incorrect, and we are obliged to him for having pointed out to us that there is nothing in the U.F.A. constitution which prevented that organization from taking political action.

The great fact to be considered is that the U.F.A. is taking political action, we are not interested much about its con-stitutionality. If it is not constitutional

now, it can soon be made so.
In justification, however, for having mentioned that it was unconstitutional we would say that U.F.A. leaders advanced that argument often in debate on political action on the floor of the annual conventions. Mr. Dunham himanimal conventions. Mr. Dunnam inimiself gave us our greatest assurance on that point. In a letter to The Non-Partisan, December 4th, 1918, arguing against the U.F.A. taking direct political action, Mr. Dunham said: "Only yesterday we read that magnificent book, 'Deep Furrows' and any unbiassed member who reads this book cannot but be impressed with the great work that has been accomplished and the sound judgment that was exercised by the founders of the organization when they determined that the organization should be strictly non-political." Where and how did the founders determine this? We took it for granted that such determination would have found its way into a constitution. But even Mr. Dunham must have had some misunderstanding of the situation for while in the above quotation he says the organization was "strictly non-political," he says in the letter of this issue: "It is thus seen that it is of the very essence of the duty of the member-ship of the U.F.A. to participate in poli-tics." How can an organization which was, according to Mr. Dunham, wisely kept strictly non-political, find the essence of its duty in participating in politics? EDITOR.

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OUR OTTAWA LETTER

THE BUDGET DEBATE

This article through delay in the mails, arrived too late for our last issue.

Ottawa, June 14th, 1919



The Budget debate proved no less interesting than was anticipated Sir Thomas White's speech was business-like and well delivered but it was the old, old story of a budget framed in the interests of the

financial mandarins a n d exploitative classes. The income tax was raised, the excess profits tax was renewed and the war surtax was removed on all British imports and partially on general imports; but as it never should have been imposed most people can say "Thank you for nothing." What is the use of raising income tax rates when a large proportion of our plutocrats who ought to be heavily mulcted by it, are beyond its reach by the grace of Sir Thomas White himself and his taxfree bonds. It produced, actually collected, 6½ millions last year; little New Zealand with one eighth of our population and wealth raised three times as much by income tax. The truth is that the protectionist interests are resolutely determined that the income tax must never be made a more profitable and effective weapon of taxation lest it produces too large a source of revenue as an alternative to their sacred tariff. Most readers of the Non Partisan are already familiar with the details of the Budget changes and it must be absolutely plain to them that it embodies and maintains all the ideas of class favoritism in public finance which have dominated Sir Robert Borden and Sir Thomas White since they entered office. There is no break with the past, no sign of any desire to use the budget as an instrument of social progress and advancement. There is a vast programme of public expenditure, in many cases sheer waste of money, designed to keep various localities placated but as long as so many fundamental errors in ecomomics are persisted in, the unrest will never down.

The Budget is a Tory production and the sooner all citizens of Canada who decline to be satisfied with it, start and brand the people who designed and are supporting it as Tories, the better. The Unionist will try to escape the name and the burden of its traditions but they will fail and just as the combination promoted in 1886 by Salisbury and Chamberlain in Britain tried to call themselves Unionists but were always the Tory party with the voters, so our Unionists will be the Tories of Canada.

Mr. McMaster's reply for the opposition was somewhat too long and discoursive. He is a good speaker and has a sound knowledge of the free trade theory, but he ranged too copiously over the financial field and the amendment which he proposed was distressingly vague. However, he laid a powerful indictment against the budget and the general financial policy of the Cabinet and thoroughly exposed the iniquitous burdens which the existing tariff system lays upon the farmers and workers of Canada. Mr. Arthur Sifton was put up to answer him, but made no attempt at economic refutation. With his usual nonchalance he waived the tariff question airily aside, declared that his own fiscal views had not changed but that in view of the troublous times through which we were passing he felt he must stay as a

shield and buckler to his harassed colleagues. On the same side of the house Mr. Ballantyne tried to explain the economic ideas of a protectionist liberal but the accent was obviously heavier on the protectionist than on the Liberal. Dr. Manion, of Fort William who has occasionally shown signs of independence, was also with the Government and pleaded bravely for bounties to develope the ores in his On the other side Mr. O. constituency. Turgeon, a veteran Acadian representative from New Brunswick made an excellent free trade speech and Mr. Baldwin,of Stanstead assailed the budget with considerable vigor. Dr. Beland, the ex-member of the Laurier Cabinet who was so long imprisoned in Germany made a really first class speech which reminded many people of Sir Wilfrid Laurier There was a touch of peotry and fine imagery in it, which coupled with its excellent English and graceful diction, put it almost in a by itself. It was full of sound economics and pleaded for better treatment for agriculture. Mr. Molloy took western free trade view and Messrs. Scott and Stev-

ens were firmly protectionist.

Mr. T. A. Crerar, the ex-Minister of Agriculture, the next day resumed the debate with the house and galleries crowded. He lays no pretentions to oratory but he has a gift of saying what he means in clear-cut, downright Anglo-Saxon and as a result his words carry conviction to his hearers, and he can take rank as a most effective speaker. His case was simply that the budget was unblushingly protectionist and as such he could not endorse it. His fiscal views had not changed and he considers that the period during which he was willing to sink them for National ends had now expired. pressure had been brought upon him to stay, but unlike most of our political leaders, Mr. Crerar has principles which he puts before office and power. He knows exactly how Tory in composition the Cabinet is and that all hope of infecting it with progressive ideas is a vain and futile dream. He was simply being used as camouflage for all sorts of governmental misdeeds and had about as much in com-mon with most of his colleagues as Lord Grey would have with Bethmann-Hollweg

or Von Tirpitz.

He then proceeded to explain his objections to the budget, which in his view continued a system of finance incapable of allowing Canada to develope her natural resources, which afford the quickest possibility of recuperation from her present financial straits. He dealt at considerable length with the tariff question, exposed its unfairness and particularly its onerous burdens upon the farming community. He maintained that far too large a proportion of our revenues was raised by taxes on consumption and that such direct taxes as had been imposed were very imperfectly levied. He wanted an even stiffer income tax, a federal inheritance tax, and a tax on unimproved land values.

In all he spoke for an hour and a half and there have been few more effective speeches delivered since Canada had a federal parliament. He struck a great blow for economic freedom and a new morality in politics. His example in refusing to sink his convictions for the sake of office is heartening to all friends of democracy in Canada and he takes with him into opposition to the present corrupt and incapable regime of a very powerful following. Not only is he the most popular figure in the house but no man in Canada has so large a personal following in the country.

He is now all the stronger because he took his share in the administration which

carried through Canada's share in the war to a conclusion. Already the Toronto Globe and the Ottawa Citizen two very influential papers, have gone strongly into opposition and many individuals who felt that Mr. Crerar was a sort of saving grace in the Cabinet are now free to say what they think of it. For the time being he will go back to the headship of United Grain Growers, Ltd., and devote his energies to its expansion but the democracy of western Canada has now available a political leader, who attracted to himself the hopes of all that is sincerely progressive and radical in the East.

The task of removing the deep impression created by Mr. Crerar's speech fell to the Hon. J. A. Calder, and a sorry contrast he presented. He was willing to sacrifice his convictions for the sake of the countryand office-and could not bring himself to desert his colleagues in their time of trouble. The parliament had not been elected to deal with the tariff and this was not the for radical changes. He favored careful inquiry by a commission and then each man should declare his views and abide by the result. The worst part of a shoddy speech was the cheap sneers it contained at Mr. Crerar. He, Mr. Calder, said: could have been a hero, had he chosen, and won applause all over the country, but he preferred the steep and thorny path to ten thousand per annum for a few more He has obviously determined to enter the service of the plutocratic interests and they will find him an efficient servant. In politics, Mr. Calder is like one of the mediaeval soldiers of fortune who now fought with the Swedes and now with the Austrian Emperor according as the rates of pay were more attractive. Destitute of convictions or ideals, he was a democrat and radical as long as it was convenient and profitable to be so but to suffer discomfort and financial loss for the cause of the plain folk is not part of Mr. Calder's creed. And the tragedy of it is that above all other members of the Cabinet, Mr. Calder's place was upon the side of common people against the rich and the great in the struggle now looming up for a new order which we were promised as the result of the war and have still to win. Left in poverty as the result of the death of his father, a working carpenter by accident, Mr. Calder in his youth and early manhood knew long days of weary toil and straightened circumstances; he knows what a struggle life is for the depressed classes of our people and he knows too the cruel greed of our plutocratic interests. He made his political repute as a leader of radicalism in Saskatchewan and everything he has he owes to the toilers of the western It is they who must deal with this traitor to democracy when the time comes.

Of the other speeches made, those of Dr. Michael Clark and Mr. W. Buchanan were easily the best. Many people in Alberta have been gravely dissatisfied with the political course these two gentlemen have taken place since 1917, but their electors should consider long and carefully ere they attempt to replace them. They are two of the most effective speakers in the house and both made valuable contributions to the debate. Dr. Clark expounded with his usual eloquence the theory of free trade and Mr. Buchanan showed the evil effects of protection in practice upon Canada. They are both firmly with Mr. Crerar and are prepared henceforth to take an independent course. Mr. Lemieux as usual was very eloquent but very futile and Mr. Rowell was very self-righteous and very unconvincing in his protestations of public virtue which young Mr. Lucien Cannon made short work of. The only other noticeable feature of the debate was

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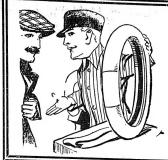
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the fact that the task of raising the racial cry as a red herring to divert attention from the economic problem has been entrusted the economic protein has been entristed to and eagerly accepted by two clerical Unionists, the Rev. Dr. Whidden, of Brandon and the Rev. Mr. Steacey, of Chilliwack. They were both firm and strong on the side of ancient wrong and had nothing but indignation for the young political leader who had sacrificed his cabinet position and gone out into the wilderness rather than agree of the continuance of a financial policy which is largely responsible for our existing chaos. They were bursting full of loyalty to Sir Robert Borden and the wonderous statesmen who form his cabinet and they were full of horror at the proletarian protests now surging up from end to end of Canada. All through Christianity there has run a strain of protest and revolt against injustice and many noble hearted clergymen have fought bravely on the people's side, but the Rev. Dr. Whidden and the Rev. Mr. Steacey are not in the line of Lemamais and Bishop Gore.

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